

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE DANIEL LEE MARTINEZ, JR. SCOTTSDALE HEALTHCARE'S "SALUTE TO MILITARY" HONOREE

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a member of the Armed Forces from my home state of Arizona. Every month Scottsdale Healthcare honors service members that perform diligent service to this country. For the month of December, they have recognized Lieutenant Junior Grade Daniel Lee Martinez, Jr.

I commend Scottsdale Healthcare for paying tribute to such outstanding service members for their bravery and service to our country.

Lieutenant Junior Grade Martinez entered the Naval Academy in 2001 and majored in Quantitative Economics. After graduation, he earned his wings as a Naval Flight Officer from Naval Air Stations in Pensacola and Jacksonville, Florida. After being permanently stationed in Whidbey Island, Washington, Lieutenant Martinez was deployed to Iraq, where he served seven months. He then went on to serve three months in South America in support of counter narcotic operations. Currently, he is expecting another deployment to Iraq in 2009.

Throughout his brave military service, LTJG Martinez has received many awards, including a Battle "E" Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Rifle Marksmanship (Expert), and Pistol Marksmanship (Expert).

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the inspiring efforts of Lieutenant Junior Grade Daniel Lee Martinez, Jr. who is serving our country and protecting the lives of his fellow servicemen in combat.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MR. ANTONIO RUGIERO, SR.

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the remarkable life and legacy of Antonio Rugiero, Sr. upon his passing at the age of 70.

Antonio was born in San Giovanni Fiore, Calabria, Italy on June 18, 1938. He attended the Peitra Fitta Monasteri in Cosenza, Italy and later completed his college business degree. In 1960, he arrived in America and two years later borrowed \$2,000 to begin his pursuit of the American dream. With his funds, a small pizzeria named Roman Village Restaurant was born. With his incredible commitment to make his business a success, Papa Rugiero created a thriving business. His sons carried on Antonio's tradition of excellent food and premier service by opening Antonio's Cucina Italiana, named after their father. Four restaurants later, it is clear that Antonio's family has created a legacy.

Antonio Rugiero, Sr. was a man deeply involved in the Detroit area community. He

never hesitated to sponsor local events, such as kid's hockey teams, baseball and football teams. Along with supporting his wonderful family, Antonio was a community leader in contributing to charitable causes including Dearborn Heights Spirit Fest, the Feast of Saint Antonio, Dine Out Detroit, Breast Cancer Awareness, Diabetes Foundation and numerous others.

On October 19, 2008, Antonio passed away. A beloved husband, father, and grandfather, he is survived by his loving wife, Enrica, four sons Patrick Attilio, Mark Luigi, Robert Attilio, and Anthony Rugiero, Jr., and ten grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, Antonio Rugiero, Sr. was a man of great respect, a successful entrepreneur, and a loving husband and father. Today, as we bid him farewell, I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning his passing and honoring his lifetime of contribution to our community.

COMMENDING PENNY HOLMES ABRAHAM

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Penny Holmes Abraham for her accomplishments and work benefitting Central Louisiana.

For the past 11 years, Mrs. Abraham has been an excellent art teacher at Alexandria Country Day School and has established an art program recognized throughout the community for its high standards and talented students.

Mrs. Abraham's efforts at Alexandria Country Day School earned a \$5,000 prize for the school in the educational competition as part of the "Heart of Spain" exhibit in Alexandria.

Her students have won numerous awards, and their works have been highlighted on book covers, presented in art exhibits, as well as featured in fundraisers for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the American Heart Association. Mrs. Abraham and her students have also been a fundamental part of the River Oaks Art Square Van Gogh Gala by contributing hundreds of pieces of art for the auction.

Moreover, Mrs. Abraham has volunteered as the art instructor for children who are being served by the Rapides Children's Advocacy Center and has assisted them in producing art work for a CASA calendar. She created several pieces of art to be used in the show home tour for another CASA fundraiser.

Mrs. Abraham's art work has been displayed in numerous private homes and businesses throughout the area, giving her a prominent role in the professional art community in Central Louisiana.

For these endeavors, it was my honor to select Mrs. Abraham to create the 2008 White House Christmas ornament for Louisiana's 5th Congressional District. Her work, truly illustrative of the region, is displayed on this year's White House Christmas tree.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Mrs. Abraham for her aptitude and accomplishments benefitting Central Louisiana.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIAL AGENT SCOTT E. JACOBS

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. SAXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Special Agent Scott E. Jacobs, who will be retiring from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) after 28 years of dedicated service.

Throughout his expansive career, Scott has been instrumental in the successful implementation of many operations within NCIS. When he first began his career in 1981, Scott was assigned to the Naval Investigative Service, NIS, in Seattle, Washington. After his initial post, he took on an undercover bidding operation in Yokosuka, Japan when he transferred to the NIS Resident Office. He then returned to the United States, where his keen operational style garnered Scott positions within management ranks, such as staff assistant to the regional director, Far East region, 1997–1988; special agent in charge of the Regional Fraud Office in New Jersey, 1988–1992; and assistant special agent in charge of the Metropolitan Northeast Field Office in New Jersey, 1992–1995.

I came to know Scott during his time as a Department of the Navy legislative fellow. For 2 years, he worked with my staff as a Navy fellow and helped to ensure the people of New Jersey's third district were well-represented. Following a stint as executive assistant to the deputy director and deputy assistant director for economic crimes, 1996–1997, he returned to Capitol Hill to work with the Joint Economic Committee. There, he focused his efforts on the Endangered Species Act. Scott then returned to NCIS headquarters and resumed his position as deputy assistant director for economic crimes.

In 2001, Scott spent time in Seattle as a special agent-in-charge of the NCIS Northwest Field Office and spearheaded the NCIS Law Enforcement Information Exchange (LinX). This valuable data-sharing system has become one of the Nation's premier tools for law enforcement agencies. He later returned to our Nation's Capitol in 2005 upon his appointment to the Senior Executive Service as the executive assistant director for combating terrorism. Scott was also tapped to serve as the acting director of the Department of Defense Counterintelligence Field Activity (CIFA), where he managed the CIFA's transition to the Defense Intelligence Agency.

Madam Speaker, Scott's enthusiasm and abiding loyalty for the NCIS are only surpassed by his genuine desire to embrace and enhance the world around him. As he celebrates his retirement, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for his leadership, commitment, and service to our Nation.

MISSING OPPORTUNITIES ON HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, despite the seemingly heartfelt personal convictions of